# Lake Charles

# Woodworkers Club, Inc. September 2001

Chuck Middleton, President Dick Hopes, Secretary/Treasure Officers and Directors

John Marcon, Barry Humphus Editor, Bubba Cheramie, Brent Evans, George Kuffel

# SEPTEMBER MEETING HIGHLITES

Board member Bubba Cheramie was our host at his shop for a demonstration of the Hegner scroll saw by manufacturer's representative Roger Richard. Roger has been representing Advanced Machinery Imports for several years and is very familiar with their scroll saw products. Roger demonstrated the AMI Hegner Scroll saw and showed the AMI Accura MK4 table saw at Bubba's shop.

The AMI Hegner 18" Varible Speed Scroll saw is a German-made and designed product. As with many German produced products, safety, engineering, design and quality are primary considerations. The Hegner Scroll Saw is no exception. The saw is very compact in design with simple and straight forward blade installation and adjustment. The saw features a slotted table and, combined with the quick blade release, makes fine scroll work an easy and fun experience, even for the novice "scroller." The saw also comes with a standard blower.

The Hegner Scroll Saw comes in three models: 14",



18" and 22" with three stands available as well. The stands are standard, chair and wheelchair designs. Accessories include a magnifier lamp and foot controlled switch. Roger mentioned, that because of the

design of the stand, the saw runs much smoother with it than when the saw is mounted on a table top. It was obvious that the design of the stand was providing vibration control for the saw. The table of the scroll saw tilts to 45° in one direction and 12° in the other. As it is slotted, additional castings are included in the underside to provide ridigity and prevent warp.

Additional features include very quiet operation and a remarkable 20 year warranty, available for an extra \$200. The show price the the 18" is \$1,095 and includes the saw, welded steel stand, the Hegner Quickclamp, 76 assorted blades, three blade clamps and an introductory book on scrolling. The regular price of this configuration is \$1,474 and the "web" price is \$1,249.

The second saw was one that Roger had just received. Consequently, he had not fully explored it's features and capabilities. The Hegner Accura MK4 is a multi-function, small table saw, similar to the discontinued Inca Swiss Cabinet Saw distributed by Garret Wade. But this saw has the added features of both a built-in disk sander and router table/shaper.

The saw blade is 6 inches in diameter, and while you

are not going to be cutting 2x4s or big sheets of plywood with this saw, it seems very high precision and very suitable for



craft work (such as cutting the thin sheets for scrollwork on the Hegner Scroll saw). Run by the same motor is a 5 inch disk sander to the left of the body. The disk sander features a small table support for your work.

The other feature is a built-in 1/4 inch router mounted to the left of the saw. The router has a separate motor and a mechanical switch allows you to activate either the saw (and sander) or the router. In addition, the saw has a power take-off connection that permits several add-on products sold by Advanced Machine. These include a mortising table, flexible shaft and even a 14" mini-lathe, sliding table, and table extension.

The complete unit features a 2 speed (1400, 5600 RPM) 6" table saw, 1/4" inverted router/shaper, 5" disc sander with tilting table, 2800 RPM 3/8" horizontal boring head, rip fence, miter guide, 32 tooth carbide saw blade, standard router bit, 60, 80, 150 grit sanding discs, 1/3 HP maintenance-free induction saw motor, 2/3 HP 27000 RPM maintenance-free universal router motor, all cast construction, and magnetic safety on/off switch.

Advanced Machinery distributes several other products as well that were not shown: a super quiet small shop wet/dry vacume, a finger joint machine, HVPL paint and finish sprayers, a nice set of combination and standard RALI Swiss hand planes, the Plano verticle glue press system, the Swissmade z-Vise from the cuttelery manufacturer ZYLISS, a very large selection of scroll saw blades (including those for metal and jewelry) and the NOBLEX combination square. More products from Advanced can be seen at their web site at www.advmachinery.com.

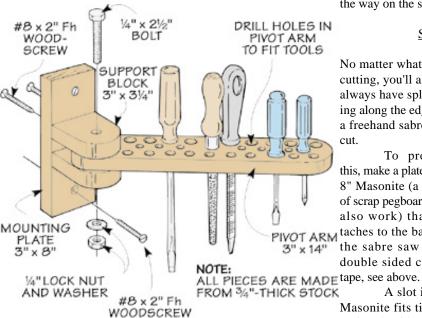
Thanks goes out to both Bubba Cheramie and Roger Richard for a good meeting and interesting demonstration.

# COMING UP.....

Saturday, September 8 — 9:00 a.m. Shop of Dick Trouth on Jigs, Tips and Tricks of woodworking ... bring your jigs and show them off!

#### SWING-OUT TOOL BAR

Space is almost always at a premium in a woodworking shop. Especially when it comes to wall space. So you are always looking for ways to "increase" the usable space you have. That's the idea behind this wall-mounted tool bar shown in the drawing below. Besides holding a number of hand tools, the bar swings out from the wall. This provides easy access to additional tools mounted behind the tool bar.



The tool bar consists of three parts: a pivot arm with a number of holes drilled in it to hold the tools, a pair of support blocks that "sandwich" the arm between them, and a mounting plate that attaches to the wall.

Before assembling the tool bar, cut an arc on the outside end of each support block and on both ends of the pivot arm. This removes the sharp corners, and it allows the pivot arm to swing freely without binding. To create a pivot point, use a bolt that passes through a hole in each support block and the pivot arm.

#### MAGNETIC STOP BLOCK

When cross-cutting short pieces to the same length, I like to clamp a stop block to the rip fence of my table saw. This block



provides clearance between the rip fence and the saw blade so the cut-off pieces don't get trapped (and kick back).

But recently, we saw an idea that avoids the hassle of fiddling around with clamps. Instead you use a magnetic stop block. It's just a hardwood block with a pair of small magnetic catches inserted into one edge, see drawing. Note: If the face of your rip fence is wood or aluminum, simply put the magnetic catches in the bottom face of the stop block.

The magnets hold the stop block securely against the fence. And when you are done, simply store the block out of the way on the side of the saw cabinet. From Woodsmith.

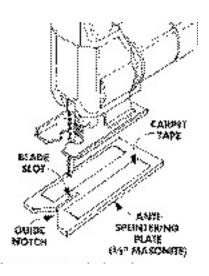
# SABRE SAW SPLINTERING

No matter what blade you're using, or what material you're

cutting, you'll almost always have splintering along the edges of a freehand sabre saw

To prevent this, make a plate of 1/ 8" Masonite (a peice of scrap pegboard will also work) that at-PIVOT ARM taches to the base of the sabre saw with double sided carpet

> A slot in the Masonite fits tightly against the sides of the blade preventing splintering. A notch at the



front of the plate helps you follow the pencil line. From Woodsmith.

# WHY DO I NEED A FEATHERBOARD?

A featherboard is used to keep smaller pieces of stock (board) pressed firmly against your table saw or router's fence. The design of a featherboard allows the stock to pass in one direction and causes resistance if moved in the other direction. This is useful for preventing kickback. A featherboard is basically a board with an angled end and 1/8 - 1/4 inch "fingers" cut into the beveled end. As stock is forced between the fence and the featherboard these fingers move slightly to allow the stock to pass. The firm squeeze helps keep the stock tight against the fence and help ensure a more accurate cut. In addition to keeping your stock against the fence, the fingers help reduce the chance of kickback. For more advanced work, such as with a router table, a second featherboard can be clamped to the fence to hold the stock down. (Click here for a picture)

#### First Things First

The first thing you want to do is select a good board, preferably 3/4" plywood. It should be approximately 18"x5"x3/4". Cut a 30-45 degree miter at one end of the board. See Page 3.

Page 2 Lake Charles Woodworkers Club, Inc.

Featherboard Continues.

### Step 1 - Draw it

Draw a "stop line" approximately 3-5 down from the top of the bevel at the same angle as your miter cut. (See picture)

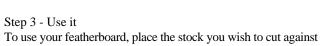


Step 2 - Cut it

Place the long end of the miter against your table saw's fence and make a cut down to the stop line. The first cut should be approximately 1/4" from the edge. Turn off your table saw and adjust you fence 3/8" further away from the fence and make another cut. Continue in this fashion, adjusting each cut, until you reach the end.

Note: It is important for safety

reasons that you start cutting on the long side of the bevel. If you start cutting along the short side you will quickly find that the later cuts do not have enough support. This can cause kickback. And ALWAYS use a push stick when working close to a cutter.





the fence. Position the featherboard firmly against it and clamp to the table. The feather board should be placed firm enough to keep the stock against the fence but should not make it difficult to push the stock into the cutter. A small scrap can be clamped against the featherboard as seen in the picture to the right. This will help keep the featherboard from slipping as you cut. For preventing blow-out at the end of the stock, clamp a peice of scrap at the end. From Woodzone.com

#### INVERTED BELT SANDER JIG

Inverting a belt sander is a great way to get a little extra use from this already versatile shop tool. The trick is to build a jig that will hold your belt sander securely in an inverted position. In this position the belt sander can be locked on and used to smooth and shape irregular pieces, round over boards, and perform many other operations. The top picture below shows a Grizzly combo belt/disc benchtop sander. The picture below it is our sander mounted in the inverted Jig.

Because each brand and model of belt sander are different you will need to custom build the inverted stand for your



specific sander. The belt sander shown in the picture below is a Porter Cable. The dust collector has been removed to allow it to sit down into the jig. This jig was built in about 20 minutes with

scrap wood. The belt sander is held in place with a pinch clamp. From Woodzone.com

Editor's note. Several years ago, I built one of these and brought it to a LCWW Show and Tell meeting. At the time, few understood what it did. I constantly use this jig as it almost turns an



ordinary belt sander into an expensive Grizzly combo belt/disc benchtop sander. With this jig and my old Sears Craftsman belt sander, I can finish inside curves, flatten stock and I even use it to sharpen my lathe gouges and scrapers. *Barry Humphus*.

## SIMPLE LATHE TEMPLATE

A little masking tape on your tool-rest can be used to easily transfer a pattern to the workpiece.

Do you need to make a number of repetitive parts on a lathe? Using a pattern is a good way to ensure all of the pieces

turn out alike but it can take time to transfer the dimensions to each piece. A simple solution is to place a piece of masking tape on your tool-rest and mark the dimensions on the



tape. With the dimensions on the tape you won't need to pull out your template as often. From *Woodzone.com* 

REMEMBER: MAKE SOME TOYS THIS MONTH.

Page 3 Lake Charles Woodworkers Club, Inc.